

Message Text

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ACTION IO-14

INFO OCT-01 AF-10 ARA-16 EA-11 EUR-25 NEA-10 RSC-01 ISO-00

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03 INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10

PA-03 PRS-01 SPC-03 SS-15 USIA-15 ACDA-19 OMB-01

TRSE-00 NSCE-00 /178 W

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R 290110Z SEP 73

FM USMISSION USUN NY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9728

INFO AMCONSUL HONG KONG

AMUSLO PEKING 057

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, AORG, UN, CH

SUBJECT: CHINESE AS A WORKING LANGUAGE IN THE UN

REF: STATE 177436

SUMMARY: US ACABQ MEMBER (STOTTLEMYER) DISCUSSED WITH HSING SUNG-YI (PRC) SUBJECT, STATING US WOULD SUPPORT CHINESE POSITION. HSING WAS MOST APPRECIATIVE OF LEARNING THIS AND SAID PRC WOULD MAKE EVERY EFFORT TO HOLD DOWN COST. ON QUESTION OF POSSIBLE OTHER WORKING LANGUAGES, HSING AGREED TO DISCUSS WITH STOTTLEMYER IF SUCH A MOVE MATERIALIZED IN FUTURE.

1. DURING EXCHANGE OF PLEASANTRIES FOLLOWING ACABQ MTG THIS AFTERNOON, STOTTLEMYER RAISED SUBJECT WITH HSING PER PARA 1 REFTEL. USING INTERPRETER, HSING SAID HE HAD INTENDED TO RAISE MATTER WITH STOTTLEMYER AT EARLY DATE SINCE QUESTION WAS OF IMPORTANCE TO HIS DEL. STOTTLEMYER POINTED OUT THAT ART 111 OF UN CHARTER WAS BASIS FOR ADDING CHINESE AND EXPRESSED HOPE THAT THERE WOULD NOT BE FURTHER NEED FOR ADDITIONAL WORKING LANGUAGES. HSING REPLIED HIS DEL DEEPLY

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APPRECIATED US SUPPORT BUT THAT MATTER OF ADDITIONAL LANGUAGES,

IF IT SHOULD ARISE IN FUTURE, WOULD HAVE TO BE DEALT WITH AT THAT TIME. HE SAID THERE WERE INDICATIONS THAT THERE MIGHT BE A MOVE TO MAKE ARABIC A WORKING LANGUAGE, BUT ONLY QUESTION OF CONCERN TO HIS DEL AT THIS TIME WAS GAINING WORKING LANGUAGE STATUS FOR CHINESE. IN REPLY, STOTTLEMYER EXPRESSED HOPE THAT, IF QUESTION OF OTHER LANGUAGES ARISES IN FUTURE, WE COULD CONSULT ON QUESTION. TO THIS HSING READILY AGREED.

2. HSING ADDED THAT MATTER HAD BEEN DISCUSSED BY HIS DEL ON NUMBER OF OCCASIONS WITH USYG DAVIDSON, AND CHINESE HAD AGREED TO MAKE MINIMAL DEMANDS AND TO BUILD UP CHINESE AS WORKING LANGUAGE OVER TIME. HE SAID HIS DEL WAS ALSO CONCERNED ABOUT FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS, AND TO THAT END EXPECTED THAT ORIGINAL COST ESTIMATES OF ABOUT \$2 MILLION COULD BE AT LEAST REDUCED BY 50 PER CENT. HSING EMPHASIZED THAT ON THIS QUESTION AS WELL AS OTHERS HIS DEL WAS TAKING A "PRAGMATIC APPROACH" AND REITERATED HIS DEL'S CONCERN OVER INCREASING COST OF FUNDING UN. IN CONCLUSION, HSING EXPRESSED AGAIN TO STOTTLEMYER HIS DEL'S APPRECIATION FOR OUR SUPPORTING THEIR REQUEST.
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